

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5, 16, and 17, and add new claims 24 and 25 as follows:

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1. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a housing defining a slot to receive one of a ~~number~~ plurality of types of removable memory cards, wherein the slot includes a central region of at least a height and a width to receive an entire memory card of a first type of a first height and outer regions of a second height that extend the central region to a width to receive a memory of a second type different from the first type; and
a first electrically conductive contact area disposed within the slot to contact the memory card of the first type; and
a second electrically conductive contact area disposed within the slot to contact the memory card of the second type ~~a plurality of electrically conductive contact areas disposed within the housing.~~
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of each of the contact areas is disposed within the central region of the slot.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a bias mechanism coupled to the housing to bias a memory card toward the contact areas.
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a bias mechanism coupled to the housing within the central region of the slot to bias memory cards toward a first side of the central region of the slot.
5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the bias mechanism biases a memory card to move the memory card a distance of at least approximately 3.5 mm from a second side of the central region of the slot.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an insertion stop within the central region of the slot to limit an insertion depth of a memory card of a predetermined width or greater.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the housing has dimensions substantially conforming to a size specification of a CompactFlash removable memory card.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the central region of the slot has a height of approximately 2.8 mm and a width of at least approximately 24 mm.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the outer regions of the slot extend the width of the slot to at least approximately 37 mm and have a height of at least approximately 0.76 mm.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an electrically conductive interface for coupling to a memory card reader.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an electrically conductive interface for coupling the apparatus to a connector for one of a Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (PCMCIA) bus, a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface, a serial interface, a parallel interface, and a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) interface.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising circuitry for converting signals received from the contact areas.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the circuitry converts the signals to conform to one of a Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (PCMCIA) bus, a Universal Serial Bus (USB), a serial interface, a parallel interface, and a small computer system interface (SCSI) interface.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of contact areas comprises:
a first contact area for electrically coupling to a Smart Media memory card;
a second contact area for electrically coupling to a Memory Stick memory card;
a third contact area for electrically coupling to a Secure Digital memory card or a MultiMedia memory card.

15. (Withdrawn)

16. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:
a housing ~~having dimensions substantially conforming to a size specification of a CompactFlash removable memory card, wherein the housing that~~ defines a slot having a central region of a height and a width to receive a memory card selected from a set comprising at least three different types of memory cards of at least two different widths ~~a MemoryStick removable memory card, a SecureDigital removable memory card, and a MultiMedia removable memory card;~~ and

a plurality of electrically conductive contact areas ~~disposed~~ arranged within the housing to provide electrical contact with the different types memory cards.

17. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the slot includes outer regions that extend the width of the central region to receive a memory card of a fourth type having a width different from the widths of set memory cards received by the central region of the slot ~~a Smart Media removable memory card (SM).~~

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein at least a portion of each of the contact areas is disposed within the central region of the slot.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a bias mechanism coupled to the housing within the central region of the slot to bias memory cards toward a side of the central region of the slot.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising an insertion stop within the central region of the slot to limit an insertion depth of a memory card of a predetermined width or greater.

21. (Withdrawn)

22. (Withdrawn)

23. (Withdrawn)

24. (New) An adapter comprising:

a housing that defines a slot to receive one of a first type of memory card and a second type of memory card having a greater length than the first type of memory card;

a first contact area disposed within a front portion of the slot to provide electrical contact for the first type of memory card; and

a second contact area disposed within a rear portion of the slot to provide electrical contact for the second type of memory card.

25. (New) The adapter of claim 24, further comprising an insertion stop positioned within the slot to prevent the first type of memory card from contacting the second contact area.